

ATTENTION IS CALLED TO THE EXQUISITE PEN-WORK. THE 1898 GODDESS OF EASTER QUITE ECLIPSES CONVENTIONAL OSTARA.

FOR THICK AND THIN

PRETTY CAPES FOR EVERY STYLE OF FEMININE ARCHITECTURE.

OUR FASHION COMMISSIONER'S CHAT

She Swears by Petticoats and Spurn Bloomers - Some Dainty Models from A Big Paris House-Easter

* (Written for the Dispatch.)

NEW YORK, April 3.-Easter will bring forth the new shapes in capes, which are making their appearance in the showrooms of the most exclusive houses. Their wariety is bewildering, and every woman will look well in them, if she selects the cut adapted to her figure. Once upon a time, and only a very short time ago it as, capes were possible only for the lender woman with sloping shoulders. Now the Paris artist has devised a cut that gives elegance to the square shoulders and height to the dumpy figure. Don't ask me how; I don't know; I can only assure you that it has been done. A study of the wraps worn by the fair maids we have drawn for you this week will convince you of the truth of my statement. The first wears a cape of black satin, covered with jet spangles, and caught in at the waist by a wide band of velvet passed through openings in the sides. The sleeve portions are finished with three flounces of black mous-

scline de sole. The second wrap is a cream cloth with embroidery, upper parts and flounces dged with ruchings of silk. The third wears a cape of brown fancy wool, trimmed with satin ribbon of the same shade, gathered and put on in a pattern. It curves away from a front of beige cloth, trimmed with bands and appliques of the brown. The high collar is lined with tan. The fourth cape is one of the new shawi shapes, selected by the ultra fashionable woman who will not women, who will not wear anything adopted by the many. It is of creamfaced cloth, embroidered in arabesques. The fifth is a satin crossed with ruchings of white mousseline de sole. Puffings of the same cover the revers and the high milar. Black mousseline do sole is us

by the puffing and knife-pleating on the A DREAM OF BEAUTY. The mantelet, with long ends hanging

n front, worn by the principal figure in he Easter parade, is an example of a tyle which, like the last two described, remain the property of the excluive-for this year at least.

PRETTY PETTICOATS.

Petticoats! The word has ever a fasciating sound, has it not? "Her feet be-eath her petticoat, like little mice steal and out," sings Sir John Suckling, in hat hackneyed yet ever new and beau-iful ballad of a bride; and from time minemorial romance has clung to this portion of attire. To bein with, it is an essentially feminine garment, and knickers-be they of tweed or satin of never such excellent quality-though they may find favor in the eyes of the "new" members of the sex, will never obtain the same hold upon our affections, than the fluffy, fussy, and ever womanly petticoat has always had. They—the knickers—may be more hygienic, more economical, more utilitarian, more everything in one comutilitarian, more everything in one com-prehensive word than the frivolous skirts of feebler minded women. And I am quite aware also that when the disciples of the knicker urge "that it is healthler and safer for 'cycling than any skirt ever yet invented, or likely to be," we adherents to the petticoat have not a word to say for overlyes, and are perfered dumb. for ourselves, and are perforce dumb. Nevertheless, in spite of all this-perhaps because of it-we hug the filmy fragility all the closer, reckless alike of the fact that it is more expensive and not half

A batch of model jupons from a big Paris house which I was privileged to view the other day were in themselves sufficient to make even the strongestminded daughter of Eve forswear her bloomeresque cuit and return to skirts, so ideally lovely were they. Many of them had, as is the fashion in Pariscorsets and matinees; or, as we call them here, dressing jackets to match. The first here, dressing jackets to match. The first that caught my eye was composed of white glace silk, sprayed over with the timest imaginable green apples and leaves, the hips, in long, ill-fitting stays, the hips, in long, ill-fitting stays, is to tighten in at the waist-line. The surplus must go somewhere, and the result is invariably bad for health.

ABOUT JUPONS. were edged with deep lace, and stuck out with a fluffiness of effect absolutely charming and indescribable. Upon exami-

for easing in the back breadths.

The matinee accompanying the forme was a dream of beauty. The material used was the same, but the jacket had a deep collar, cut sailor-shape, of white slik, edged with a frill of lace; the sleeves reaching just to the bend of the elbow, bore turned-back cuffs to match and frills of the same filmy lace. A dee frill of the white lace went all around the mutinee, and was further ornamente by big choux of pale-green ribbon, the narrowest width ribbon I have ever seen The coresets matched, and were of the new French shape-viz., very short, line with the thinnest white silk, and profusely trimmed, but in front only, with No more charming set than the above could well be found for a trousseau

I recommend this idea to those of m I recommend this idea to those of my readers who are prospective brides, since a length of chine silk, sufficient for skirt and dressing jacket, can be picked up very cheaply, and of quality quite good enough for the above purpose. If you desire to have corsets also to match, reserve a piece of the silk. There are plenty of corsets makers whose cut of corset-makers whose cut is sufficiently reliable, and whose prices are moderate, whom you will find glad to make it up. And while I am upon this subject let me say how strongly I am in favor of having all corsets, even those for every-day use, made to order. More bad figures result from the continued use of ill cut, ready-made corsets than most women have any idea of. About one woman in every ten possesses what is technically known as a "stock figure"; and, the question naturally presents itself, "What becomes of the other nine?" Well, it is to be assumed they suffer in silence. And here, let me draw your attention to one important fact, which should on no account be overlooked. Because a corset is loose enough in the which. waist, there is no sign that it is not dangerously tight elsewhere.

But, to return to the jupons, Model No. 2 was, if lacking in the fragility of No. 1. charming and indescribable. Upon examination I found that three flounces were set into one heading, a piped one of palegreen silk, so that in reality there were nine flounces altogether, not counting an underful of lace, or rather a ruching of the latter, for which a fine entredeux, boxpleated in the middle, had been used. This petiticoat was cut exactly like a dress skirt would be, only, of course, some four inches shorter. It was gored to such perfection that there was not the many part of fulness anywhere, pink ribbon. Inside the skirt, at the hem,

had a triple frill of black lace the edge not think I ever saw such a fascinating petticoat before. I am quite sure if Sir ohn Suckling were alive now he would want to write another ballad to it. The iressing jacket for this model was also of rose-pink silk. It boasted a Vandyked collar of the silk, edged with lace, and, n addition, had two of the quaintest litle pockets at the sides, their lids com-bosed of frills of black lace. The sleeves cached to the elbows, and were semi-ight fitting, finished off by double frills the lace. And the front of the jacket has just one mass of foamy cascades of sack lace intermined with knots of reseack lace, intermixed with knots of rose-

nk ribbon all an expensive model to copy, and could, moreover, be quite easily accomplished by an amateur dressmaker. There is practically no fitting needed for a dressing-jacket, and the petiticoat, given good pattern, is simplicity itself.

Last of all, I espled a creation of white
sainsook, flounced almost from waist to hem with row after row of broad, cream-tinted Valencienne, each flounce being set in under another of white satin ribbly in a scheme of this sort. At intervals were big choux of the white satin ribbon. The inner hem of this skirt was finished off in a highly original and, to my mind, sensible fashion Needless to say, this would outwear quite half a dozen lace frills, and, in addition, look tidy to the last-a thing no lace flounce ever did yet, I commend the idea to my readers. It is certainly worth

ing towards economy. Slight Variation

copying, and is, moreover, a mode tend-

(Somerville Journal.)
A Somerville girl, who went to spend the evening, carried a door-key on a gold chain hung around her neck, because she hadn't any pockets. She explained to her friends that it wasn't a locket she was wearing, but an un-lock-it.

Deafness Cannot Re Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube gets inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces. We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, Tac.

Sold by Druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best

"GRIM VISAGED WAR"

LING OF HIS DIREFUL FRONT.

THE IDLER'S VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT

Talk of Hostilities Breeds Poets-A Sample of Rhythm and Rhyme from a Lady-The Crowd Was

"Peace hath its victories no less than war," says some one who has evidently tried both, and is now willing to let his friends do the fighting. The unknown author of this quotation may rest assured that I voice his sentiments, and furthermore, that I shall do all in my power to carry our precinct for pacific measures. But aside from the unusual outlay of sticking-plaster and gunpowder necessitated by war, there are other evils to be considered in connection with hostilities. Think of the poems that even the talk of strife has already excited. From hovel and palace, from hut and mansion, from everywhere, in fact-new bards have sprung into existence, and are joining in the poetic chirpings which now fill our land with bellicose melody. There is no the bulletin; swiftly and with question about the fact that poets are pugnacious. If I ever doubted it is ore these doubts have been dispelled. Pick up any paper you will-the New York Earth, the Boston Hub, the Tidewater Eagle, or the Goochland Clarion-and ere your eye has scanned a column of patent medicine advertisements (t will alight on poetry, and without waiting to read it, you can safely surmise that the muse is bristling up at Spain or swearing, without official authority, that Cuba shall be free. If rhythmless rhyme can save the reconcentrados, or pugilistic composition can solve the questions of the hour, we may as well put our little shoes and stockings under the bed with perfect omposure to-night and sleep the sleep of the just, for the aforesaid remedies are tremendously in evidence.

And our poets are not all males, either. Some of the ladies are also for war-possibly because it is a good husband exterminator—and if I may judge from their remarks, it won't do for the Infanta Eulalle to rustle her silk-lined petticoats too near our ple-makers and remnanthunters. Somebody might get scratched, and most likely it would be the Infanta. As illustrative of the martial spirit of our American sisters, I beg to call attenion to the following verse, which is here reproduced verbatim, and with due rever-ence to the unique system of spelling, adopted by the sweet poetess:

> "I wish I was a man, I will tell you what I'd do, I would sholder my musket And my napsack two;

I would Sail away to Cuba On the fastest flying fleet,

And when I got to Habana, There the enemy I would meet." While all poetry, like all whiskey, is good-though some kinds of it are better than others-the above lines strike me as being worthy of especial attention and critical analysis. You will first observe that the sweet rhymster, after the manman. Were this boon-simple and modest in its way, but altogether impossible-granted, her first move (after pur-chasing bloomers, of course) would be to procure a musket and her "napsack, two." With this equipment she would be prepared for the difficulties to follow. Not content with a single vessel, she would sall to Cuba on a fleet, and not satisfied with a slow-moving squadron, she would get the "fastest-flying" boats that plough the cerulean depths. Last, but by no means least, on an excursion of this sort, upon her arrival at Habana, "there the enemy she would meet." This climax is not run in for poetic effect, but is a cold, pickled fact that should be seriously cor-sidered. In fact, many of us, especiall s./ow up all right, so far as "sholdering the musket" and the "napsack, two, and utilizing the "fastest-flying fleet," but this thing of meeting the enemy is

another matter. A careful consideration of this charmingly plucky little verse can but make us the fair ones who are naturally supposed to spend most of their time shivering and shuddering as soon as things get threat-ening. But hark you, boys, for there is more to follow-more to give you confidence in our women, and likewise in that chivalric gentleman now smoking the best cigars in Habana. Drink in the following, sip by sip, just as you do with water when you have the hiccoughs:

"And we have a man As firm as any tree If you want to know his pame His name is Fitz lee.

He will stand by you boys, For I know he is brave And if you fall in battle

You will fill a heros grave." This handsome compliment, which in directly compares the flower of south-ern manhood to a block of wood, need not be read by cowards. Poltroons can find no comfort in it. It is meant exclusively for the die-for-your-country class—in a word, it offers six feet of earth to every hero-a reward calculated to cause a tremendous influx of our population into Cuba and other Spanish soil, have a guarantee that Fitz Lee will "stand by you," which, in itself, is a great inducement. Whether he will do this while you are living, or after you get the permanent job of filling a hero's grave, is not positively stated, but either way, the proposition is not to be turned down. Methinks it would make one feel good, even while filling the most humble and unpretentious grave, to have our jovial, sunshiny old Fitz "standing Unfortunately, the poetess does not specify how long our respected Consul would do his part, nor does she explain how he would meet the emergency if several of us were to avail ourselves of this opportunity to fill the desirable class of graves mentioned. It seems to me that the ele ment of Lee's ubiquity enters considera-

Lastly, to show what else the poetess is willing to do. I quote the following: "But since I am no man I'll tell you what I'll do

I'll go to the Tailor-Shop And make the gray and blue;

And as our solders wear them, And looking very neat . We will stand at the windows And watch them through the street.

Well, I don't know. It seems to me that "gray and blue" combination doe exactly suit, especially as our fair friend has got to go to the "tailor-shop" and tackle the whole sartorial department all by herself. Besides, I don't want any man to make my clothes for me furthermore, I am not so certain that I would be "looking very neat" when I donned the garments. But even conceding all this, it strikes me that our heroine after so many promises, winds up with a very humble part. While we appreciate her inability to be a man, and to face those hardships which are in soak for us, we can't help being pained by the anti-climax which falls like a pall over her poetic muse. After getting us into clothing which she has made, and starting us towards our heroes' graves, she wipes her hands of the whole business and retires to some convenient window where, womanlike, she watches us "through the street," -yes, watches us "through the street," Simply this, and nothing more. If she had watched us through a telescope or opera-glasses, or

Such are some of the evils of war. Our sweet poetess has been sincere in her suggestions, but like many other bards, she has unconsciously assigned the easiest EVILS INCIDENT TO THE WRINK-

duties to herself and left us "solders" to hold the cat in the bag. Now, if the rhymsters, male and female, who have menaced Spain for so many weeks with their belligerent verses, will volunteer to fill some of the heroes' graves so feelingly mentioned, we who will have to do the actual fighting will declare for war at

It was a day of anxiety and excitement—a day when rich and poor, wise and stupid, young and old, all talked of war. On every corner they buttonholed magistrate and an appellate court shouted their ideas of international law, and unhesitatingly criticised the administra-tion. It was Cuba, Cuba, Cuba, and Spain, Spain, Spain, and war to the knife, and no compromise, and everything else that indicates a belligerent spirit. And so, when the individual with the melted chalk solution approached the big bulletin-board and prepared to procialm in burning letters of white the latest news, they flocked around him, after the man-ner of Virginians who are never too busy to pause a few minutes. He did not hur-ry-this man with the chalk solution-for he knew the crowd would wait. And the highlands to the lowlands-from neither did the multitude murmur-yea, they exhibited the most laudable patience, for the suspense of expectancy was deli-cious. Slowly and with superb deliberation did the news-monger write the words on creasing numbers did the crowd multiply Not a sound was heard save the swish of the brush and the excited breathing of the onlookers.

> "The news of the President's action was received with intense excitement in Ha-bana," wrote the scribe, whereupon he paused and calmly surveyed the myriads

> who watched his every movement.
> "Everywhere it was discussed on the streets," continued he, and then there streets." was another pause and more excited breathing, and an occasional shuffling of restless feet. But look! the man with the brush re-

> But look! the man with the brush resumes. Drink in his every word as it drips from the bristles of his unique stylus, "General Lee, when shown the report of the nation's Executive, smilingly remarked ——," and here the deliberate news-monger lost himself in thought and in forgetfulness of those who lung their glances on his every who hung their glances on his ever

Awaking at last from his comatos state, the individual with the brush re-sumed his work. To the words "General Lee, when shown the report of the nation's Executive, smilingly re _____," he added the following: they are selling the best five-cent cigar in Richmond at the X. Y. Z. store." the crowd drew a long, united, consoli-dated breath, and sucked in hundreds of cubic feet of air, and saying not a word each man stlently withdrew, and as they meekly shuffled off, they one and all re called the fact that important business awaited them, And no man smiled, for all had bitten at the bait. The big, stout party, who never gets sensick, and neve had a practical joke played on him in his long and useful life, merely remarked:

of that darned advertising fake business.
He had lost fifteen minutes learning where to get the best five-rent where to get the best IDLE REPORTER Richmond THEY WILL WELCOME HIM.

Exercises at Leigh-Street This Afternoon, Greeting Rev. Ashby Jones.

The services at Leigh-Street Baptist church this afternoon at 3 o'clock, when Rev. M. Ashby Jones will be welcomed promises to be of a most interesting nature. This is the programme; Nev. J. S. Dill, D. D., presiding; Doxology; Invo. war. On every corner they buttonholed one another. Dry-goods clerks were appealed to for their views, and even the street-car conductors were besought to express opinions on the crisis. Men who didn't know the difference between a magistrate and an appellate court shout. tions, Rev. C. R. Hyde, pastor Presbyterian church; Anthem, "Glory Excelsis"; Address in Behalf of Riel mond Baptist Churches, Rev. Georg Cooper, D. D.; Address in Behalf of Leigh Street Baptist Church, Rev. J. William Jones, D. D.; Solo (selected), Mr. Haddo S. Watkins; Response by the Pasto Rev. M. Ashby Jones; Hymn; Benedic

These exercises will be held in the body of the church, and the public is cordially invited to join with the congregation is extending the hand of cordial greeting to their new pastor.

A Solon. (Washington Star.)

Spring's too early in arrivin'
An' the peaches won't be thrivin'
Ef belated breezes makes the climate
raw,
This here hurryin' the weather
Is too risky, altogether.
Legislature orter pass another law,

There's a comet that's a-whizzin'

There's a confet that a swill all 'An' a-splitterin' an' sizuln'
The attention of the scientists to draw.
Them there things is most suspicious Makes the people superstitious.
Legislature orter pass another law. People take too much delight in Readin', figgerin', an' writin'. They've criticised most ev'rything they

saw.
Some has even showed a yearnin'
For to question my great learnin'
Legislature orter pass another law.

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A perfect home hotel in a great

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AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN PLAN. Ainslie & Webster.

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classes, and for purity and honest worth is unequalled." Costs less than ONE CENT a Cup. Trade-Mark on Every Package.

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INSURANCE STATEMENTS.

[PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS OF THE STATE OF VIRGINIA.]

EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES.

ANNUAL STATEMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING THE SIST DAY OF DECEMBER, 1897. OF THE ACTUAL CONDITION OF THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES, ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, MADE TO THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, PURSUANT TO THE LAWS OF VIRGINIA.

Name of the Company in full—EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY. Location of home or principal office of said Company—120 BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY.

Character of the Company—LIFE.

RK CITY.
Character of the Company-LIFE.
President-HENRY B. HYDE.
Secretary-WILLIAM ALEXANDER.
Organized and incorporated-JULY 25, 1859.
Commenced business-JULY 25, 1859.
Name of the General Agent in Virginia-HOWARD SWINEFORD & CO.

Residence-RICHMOND, VA.

The whole number of policies in force, and the amount of lia-

Total
The amount of losses paid during the year
The amount of expenses for all purposes texcept losses), including contingent guarantee fund.
The amount of dividends paid, excluding matured endowments and dividends.

12,005,963 47

The amount of losses unpaid, including matured endow-

Total
The amount of assets, and how invested:
3 40,412,770 41
3 40,412,770 41
3 40,412,770 41
3 40,412,770 41
3 40,412,770 41
3 40,412,770 41
3 40,412,770 41
 Mortgage loans
 36,175,728 10

 Book value of stocks and bonds owned
 118,234,746 07
 Cash in company's office:

Cash deposited in banks and trust companies at interest 16,204,468 89

Agents' ledger balances

Commuted commissions

Accrued interest and rents

Market value of bonds and stocks, over book value.

Net premiums due, and unreported, and net deferred premiums

4,681,942 (0

mlums Number and amount of policies in force December 31st of Number and amount of policies issued during the year,..... Total

Deduct number and amount which have ceased to be in force during the year.

Total number and amount of policies in force December 31, 1897. Amount of losses and claims on policies unpaid December 21st of previous year.

Amount of losses and claims on policies incurred during the

Amount of losses and claims on policies paid during the year. 63 \$17.800 Amount of assessments, premiums, dues, and fees collected or secured in Virginia during the year, in cash and notes or credits, without any deduction for losses, dividends, commissions, or other expenses, \$415,249.24. THOMAS D. JORDAN, Comptroller, W. ALEXANDER, Secretary.

Seal of Corporation.

State of New York, city of New York—ss.:
Sworn to February 15, 1898, before
CHARLES EDGAR MILLS, Commission Seal of Notary. HOWARD SWINEFORD

GENERAL AGENT.

1110 East Main Street,

ap 3-Su4t

RICHMOND, VA,

\$15,859,532 00